Application No. 10/634,262 Filed: August 5, 2003 TC Art Unit: 1638 Confirmation No.: 7055

AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule that encodes a polypeptide having starch synthase activity, said polypeptide comprising an N-terminal arm region, a C-terminal catalytic region and a region of about 900 450 amino acids terminating with N-terminal to said catalytic region,

wherein said C-terminal catalytic region has begins with a catalytic domain comprising alpha-1,4-glycosyltransferase catalytic activity;

wherein a nucleic acid sequence encoding said region of about 900 450 amino acids terminating with N-terminal to said catalytic domain in said catalytic region has at least 75% homology with the region from about nt 2425 to about nt 5022 3791 of SEQ ID NO:1; and

wherein said N-terminal arm region of said polypeptide comprises an amyloplast targeting peptide; and

wherein said polypeptide encoded by said isolated nucleic acid molecule has starch synthase activity.

- 2. (Original) A vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule of claim 1.
- 3. (Original) The vector of claim 2, wherein said vector is an expression vector operably linked to elements that allow expression of said nucleic acid.
- 4. (Original) A host cell transfected with the vector of claim 3.

-5-

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- 5. (Original) A transgenic plant comprising the vector of claim
 3.
- 6. (Original) A method of producing starch, said method comprising the steps of:

transforming a cell with the vector of claim 3; and extracting and purifying said starch.

- 7. (Original) A fusion construct, comprising the isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1 fused to nucleic acid encoding an affinity purification peptide.
- 8. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding said region of about 450 amino acids N-terminal to said catalytic region has at least 80% homology with the region from about nt 2425 to about nt 3791 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 9. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding said region of about 450 amino acids N-terminal to said catalytic region has at least 90% homology with the region from about nt 2425 to about nt 3791 of SEQ ID NO:1.
- 10. (New) The isolated nucleic acid molecule of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence encoding said region of about 450 amino acids N-terminal to said catalytic region has at least 95% homology with the region from about nt 2425 to about nt 3791 of SEO ID NO:1.

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